



Working
Together
for the
Future –
Fairfax County



Chapter

1

Introduction

Introduction to Fairfax County's Solid Waste Management Plan

This solid waste management plan (SWMP) provides Fairfax County's integrated strategy for the management of non-hazardous solid waste generated within the county over the next 20 years.

Virginia Solid Waste Management Regulations

Fairfax County developed this Solid Waste Management Plan in accordance with the VDEQ Solid Waste Management Planning Regulations



**VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

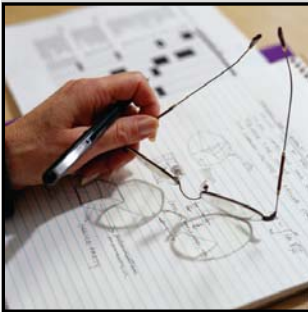
Fairfax County developed this SWMP in accordance with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) Solid Waste Management Planning Regulations, Amendment 1 (9 VAC 20-130-10 et seq.), promulgated in 2001. These regulations require each jurisdiction to provide a complete, revised SWMP in compliance with that chapter to VDEQ no later than July 1, 2004. The primary purposes of these regulations are to:

- Establish minimum solid waste management (SWM) standards and planning requirements for protection of the public health, public safety, the environment, and natural resources throughout the Commonwealth;
- Promote local and regional planning that provides for environmentally sound and compatible SWM with the most effective and efficient use of available resources; and,
- Establish state and local government responsibility for meeting and maintaining the minimum recycling rates of 25 percent.

Plan Development Approach and Objectives

Fairfax County is using this comprehensive SWMP both to satisfy the VDEQ regulatory requirements and as a strategic planning tool. This plan provides the groundwork for solid waste source reduction, reuse, recycling, collection, transfer, and disposal initiatives in Fairfax County from 2004 through 2024. It establishes objectives and strategies for the operational and financial management of its SWM system.

Fairfax County then selected SWMP actions that meet the county's solid waste management objectives



The county developed the SWMP by first evaluating its current SWM activities and its future waste projections to identify future waste management needs over the SWMP planning period. Fairfax County then selected SWM alternatives for the next 20 years that address the gaps in future waste management needs and meet the following county waste management objectives:

1. To reduce the volume of the solid waste stream through the implementation of waste reduction and recycling programs.
2. Maintain a balanced SWM system that benefits the community and follows regulatory requirements.
3. To provide efficient and economical refuse collection, recycling, transfer, and disposal services.
4. To provide facilities for the sanitary, efficient and economical reception and transportation of solid waste generated in Fairfax County.
5. To provide for the operation of sanitary waste disposal facilities, utilizing the most economically viable and environmentally acceptable methods available.
6. To provide regulatory oversight of the county's ordinances regarding solid waste.

Plan Organization

This SWMP consists of 14 additional chapters and six appendices:

- Chapter 2 describes Fairfax County's current waste stream characteristics, estimates of waste quantities and material types, and projections of the waste stream over the next 20 years. The chapter also examines the pertinent demographic data, including population, urban concentration, households, and employment, and county characteristics, including climate, geology, and traffic conditions, that may influence waste collection, waste

disposal, and type of materials disposed of over the next 20 years.

- Chapter 3 describes the solid waste management hierarchy (defined in the Virginia Solid Waste Management Regulations) and discusses the consideration of the hierarchy in developing this SWMP.
- Chapter 4 presents the overall objectives of Fairfax County's SWM program and discusses the manner by which the SWMP actions will accomplish these objectives.
- Chapter 5 presents an overview of Fairfax County's current SWM system, including organization structure and funding strategies.
- Chapter 6 describes the current SWM activities for municipal solid waste (MSW) in Fairfax County, organized using the waste hierarchy. It uses the hierarchy as the framework for determining how to bridge the gaps between the current SWM activities and the strategies needed to manage the county's MSW in the future. The chapter presents Fairfax County's SWMP actions for MSW over the next 20 years
- Chapter 7 describes the current county SWM activities, anticipated gaps in waste management, and SWMP actions for construction/ demolition/debris (CDD).
- Chapter 8 describes the current county SWM activities, anticipated gaps in waste management, and SWMP actions for yard waste.
- Chapter 9 describes the anticipated gaps in waste management, and SWMP actions for special wastes.
- Chapter 10 describes the current and future county litter control program.
- Chapter 11 presents Fairfax County's integrated actions planned for the SWM system over the next 20 years, organized from the top to bottom levels of the waste hierarchy.
- Chapter 12 describes Fairfax County's plan for the implementation of its SWMP actions. It discusses, for each SWMP action, the required implementation steps, the responsible party or parties, and the timeframe for implementation.

- Chapter 13 presents the future waste quantities projections for Fairfax County's SWM system after implementation of the SWMP actions.
- Chapter 14 describes Fairfax County's plan for funding its SWM system over the next 20 years. It discusses the modifications to the current funding structure to support the SWMP actions.
- Chapter 15 discusses the public participation in development of this SWMP, including both citizen and private sector involvement, the consideration of public/private partnerships, and the public education and outreach strategies to execute the future vision of the SWM system.
- Appendix A shows population forecasts by sub-census plot.
- Appendix B presents the results of the 1990 Fairfax County Municipal Waste Composition Study.
- Appendix C discusses the development of MSW generation, disposal, and recycling projections over the SWMP planning period.
- Appendix D lists the solid waste facilities in Fairfax County. (Note that the CIA, BFI, and INOVA RMW Treatment facilities are not available for public waste disposal.)
- Appendix E discusses recycling markets.
- Appendix F shows potential best practices for source reduction and reuse in Fairfax County.